Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2050

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

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AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

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SUBJ: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY JULY 9

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USIA FOR IBS, IEE, IPS GENEVA FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY AND AMB. STOESSEL

- 1. INTERNAL. THE SOVIET PRESS JULY 9 DEVOTES MOST OF ITS SPACE TO THE OPENING SESSION OF THE SUPREME SOVIET.
- 2. UNITED STATES. NO MENTION IS MADE OF THE SECRETARY'S UPCOMING MEETING WITH GROMYKO. PRAVDA REPORTS WITHOUT COMMENT THE PRESIDENT'S DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY. IZVESTIYA STRONGLY CONDEMNS SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S REMARKS ON LIMITED NUCLEAR WAR, AND CALLS HIS VIEWS AND POLICIES, WHICH ALLEGEDLY PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR ENEMIES OF DETENTE, "CONTRARY TO THE SPIRIT OF THE TIMES." IZVESTIYA ALSO REFERS FAVORABLY TO STATEMENTS SUPPORTING DETENTE AND INCREASED US-SOVIET COOPERATION MADE BY SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE HUMPHREY-SCOTT DELEGATION FOLLOWING THEIR MEETING WITH BREZHNEV. LITERATURNAYA GAZETA CARRIES AN INTERVIEW WITH SENATOR SCOTT WHO REPORTEDLY DESCRIBED THE SENATORS' MEETING WITH BREZHNEV AS "USEFUL." SCOTT WAS CITED AS SAYING THAT THE DISCUSSIONS ESPECIALLY CONCERNED THE MIDDLE EAST. ASKED ABOUT OBSTACLES TO TRADE, SCOTT REPORTEDLY SAID THAT HE AND SENATOR HUMPHREY WERE OPPOSED TO DISCRIMINATION AGAINST THE SOVIET UNION IN TRADE MATTERS. (SEPTEL FOLLOWS ON INTERVIEW).
- 3. MIDDLE EAST. PRAVDA AND IZVESTIYA CARRY A BRIEF SYRIAN MFA STATEMENT REAFFIRMING DAMASCUS' POSITION RE A ME SETTLE-MENT BASED ON AN ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM ALL OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORY AND ON A GUARANTEE OF THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIANS. PRAVDA ALSO GFPORTS WITHOUT COMMENT FULBRIGHT'S CRITICISM OF ISRAEL'S "EXPANSIONIST POLICY" AND HIS STATEMENT THAT ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM ALL OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORY IS THE ONLY BASIS FOR A JUST PEACE.
- 4. PORTUGAL. PRAVDA CARRIES A LISBON DATELINED TASS REPORT SUMMARIZING THE PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST PARTY POLITICAL COMMITTEE'S ATTACK ON THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC CENTER'S CALL FOR FORMATION OF A NEW COALITION WITHOUT COMMUNIST PARTICIPATION. THE ARITICLE HIGHLIGHTS THE COMMUNISTS' CHARGE THAT THE SOCIALISTS' SILENCE IN THE FACE OF THIS "RIGHTIST" THREAT ENDANGERS THE PORTUGUESE REVOLUTION, PROMOTES DOMESTIC TENSIONS, AND SUPPORTS THE PLOTS UNCLASSIFIED

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OF COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY AND PSEUDO-REVOLUTIONARY CLIQUES.

5. ECONOMIC. DELIVERING THE PRINCIPAL SPEECH TO THE JOINT SESSION OF THE COUNCILS OF THE UNION AND OF NATIONALITIES AT THE OPENING SUPREME SOVIET SESSION JUNE 8, DEPUTY PREMIER TIKHONOV DISCUSSED A LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL, "FURTHER STRENGTHENING CONSERVATION OF MINERAL RESOURCES AND IMPROVEMENT IN UTILIZATION OF VALUABLE ORES." TIKHONOV EMPHASIZED THE NEED

FOR PLANNED, ECONOMIC EXPLOITATION OF RESOURCES, TOUCHING LIGHTLY UPON ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS AND TAKING POT SHOTS AT THE MINISTRIES OF GEOLOGY AND OF NON-FERROUS METALLURGY FOR DELAYS, INEFFICIENCY AND WASTAGE OF VALUABLE BY-PRODUCTS. QUOTING LENIN AND BREZHNEV EACH TWICE, TIKHONOV PAINTED BRIGHT PICTURE OF FUTURE OF SOVIET EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES AND EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT SUPREME SOVIET ACTION ON THE PROPOSAL WILL STRENGTHEN THE ECONOMY AND GUARANTEE CAREFUL MANAGEMENT OF "REMARKABLE NATURAL RESOURCES OF OUR GREAT SOCIALIST FATHER-LAND."

6. SCIENCE. A PRAVDA ARTICLE ENTITLED "OCEAN, WHICH USED TO BE A LAKE" DESCRIBES JOINT US-USSR SCIENTIFIC BLACK SEA DEEP DRILLING WORK, PART OF THE WORLD OCEAN STUDIES AGREEMENT, ON BOARD THE AMERICAN VESSEL "GLOMAR CHALLENGER" (SISTER SHIP OF GLOMAR EXPLORER--A FACT NOT MENTIONED IN PRAVDA).

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